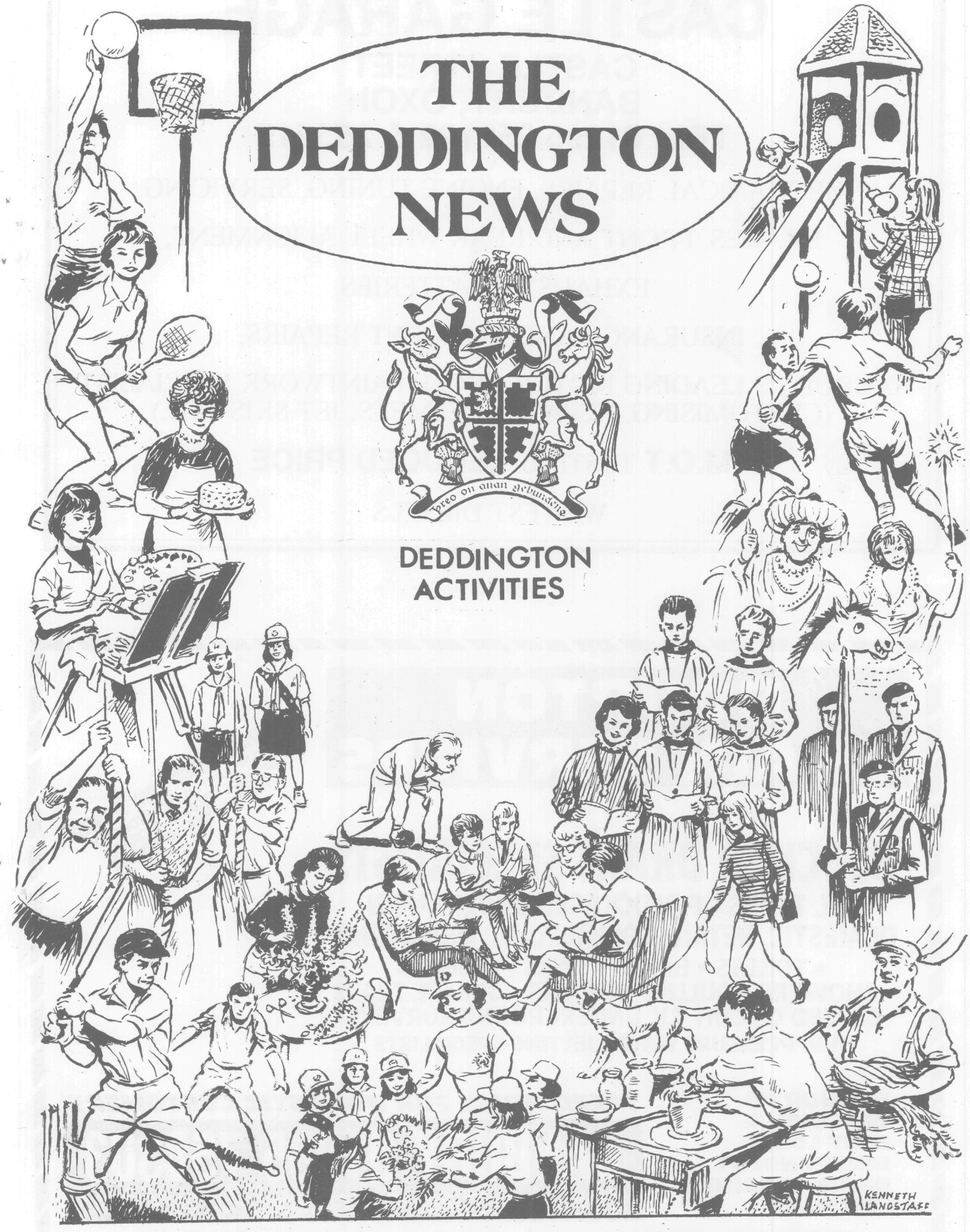
FEBRUARY 1996

THE DEDDINGTON NEWS



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THE DEDDINGTON NEWS

FEBRUARY 1996

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EDITORIAL

A new year - and new beginnings. If you're short of ideas here are some suggestions from the following pages: to help out with a new day care scheme (p6), tread the boards (p7), improve your dog-walking etiquette (p9), stitch with a purpose (p11), or give much-needed support to our Fire Service (p12). Welcome to PC Bob Donahue (p3).

My great hope is that 1996 will also see the birth of a new wood (enclosed leaflet, and pp 3 & 4). May be it's because my Swiss grandfather was a forester, or just a love of trees (of which there is a fair dearth in this neck of the woods), or simply the feeling this is something we can offer the next generations. Still, at least the countryside in general won't be the loser; if we miss the target Deddington's loss will be another community's gain.

DN-wise we're starting a gardening feature from March - if you've any favourite tips please let us know. And we'll be celebrating a special birthday - our 20th - with the September issue. We've already had some pretty wild ideas on ways of marking it - which we'll tell you about as the year unfolds - but we're open to other suggestions.

The December issue appeal for letters certainly bore fruit! Do keep 'em coming - but please not too long...

Sylvie Spenceley

FEBRUARY DIARY

Fri	2	Carers' Drop-In, Deddington Surgery 2 - 4pm.
Th	8	Users Meeting, Windmill Centre, 7pm. (p 3)
Fri	9	Deddington School Disco for pupils, 6 - 8pm.
Tu	13	WI:Members only Mini Auction, Holly Tree, 7.30pm.
Wed	14	U3A: A Celebration of St. Valentine's Day, Windmill Centre, 2.30pm.
Mon	19	Storytelling Workshop for over 6's, Windmill Centre, 10 - 11.30 am. (p 7)
Tu	20	**COPY DATE FOR MARCH DEDDINGTON NEWS.**
Wed	21	Music Making Workshop for over 12's, Windmill Centre, 10am - noon. (p 7)
Wed	21	Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm.
Fri	23	British Legion: Folk Music night.
Fri	23	Little Angel Theatre present 'Go Noah Go', Windmill Centre, 2.30pm. (p 7)
Sat	24	British Legion: Out Of The Blue.
Wed	28	U3A: Major Clift, Secrets of Gibraltar, Windmill Centre, 2.30pm.

MARCH DIARY

Fri	1	Carers' Drop - In, Deddington Surgery 2 - 4pm
Fri	1	Oxfordshire Touring Theatre:: 'A Dickens of a Tale'.Windmill Centre,7.30pm. (p 7)
Tu	5	Rural Care Forum, Windmill Centre 2 - 4pm. (p4)
Wed	6	Neighbourhood Watch Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm.
Sat	9	British Legion: Karioke.
Tu	12	WI: Annual Meeting, Holly Tree, 7.30pm.
Wed	13	U3A: Mr George Spenceley, Return to Romania, Windmill Centre, 2.30pm.
Wed	13	Parish Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm.
Sat	16	PTA: Quiz Night, Windmill Centre. (p 4)
Tu	19	**COPY DATE FOR APRIL DEDDINGTON NEWS.**
Fri	22	British Legion: Folk Music.
Sat	23	British Legion: Moosehead.
Sat	23	Concert by The Adderbury Ensemble, Parish Church, 7.30pm, £3.50 & £5.
Wed	27	U3A: Mr Chris Bond, An Entertaining Afternoon, Windmill Centre, 2.30pm.

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Notes on Meeting held in the Town Hall on Wednesday, 13 December attended by Cllrs Todd (chair), Brewer, Clarke, Clinch, Colley, Cosgrove, Drake, Fisher, Flux, Hill, Lee, Oddy, Stevens and Swash. Coun Cllr Matthews and Dist Cllr O'Sullivan were also present.

MATTERS ARISING: Cllr Colley asked that future minutes should reflect cllrs' discussions more clearly than they do at present.

CAPITAL SCHEMES: The Clerk reported on cllrs' order of priority for new schemes. After discussion they agreed to set aside £15,000 for the Clifton play area levelling works (£1,500), repairs to Town Hall (£5,000), repairs and repainting of Church Clock (£5,000) and street lighting improvements (£3,500). Cllr Hill to prepare a report on the possible provision of public toilets; PC to press OCC for improvements to Clifton Road footpath and, at Cllr Brewer's suggestion, to offer the CC a loan towards the cost of a proper path. Cllr Colley agreed to bring pressure to bear on CC for the path, by encouraging Clifton residents to mount a vigorous letter-writing campaign.

PRECEPT: Following a request under a special resolution to re-open the debate on the setting of the Precept, cllrs agreed on a 50% Precept to help finance the new Capital Schemes. This is the equivalent of £12 per house, based on band D properties.

RECREATION & GRANTS: 1. Cllr Drake reported on a proposal by the Woodland Trust for a community woodland at Bloxham Bridge. PC to give notional support by agreeing to the Clerk acting as post-box for pledges and providing Town Hall free of charge for public meeting. 2. Request for £50 grant from Parent & Toddler Group to help with rent and equipment. Group to be asked to complete a fresh application as original had gone astray.

ENVIRONMENT: 1. Budget for Kill Your Speed signs to be increased by £64 to pay for two extra posts. 2. Original estimate for the number of granite sets for High Street/New Street footpath was too great. As PC paying £2 per metre towards cost, Clerk to ensure surplus materials will return to Parish, for possible use beside cemetery water trough and outside Tuckers. 3. Letter about uneven paving in Church Street and Market Place to be passed to OCC. 4. CDC's tree preservation expert has inspected all trees in Hempton Road. Further inspections to take place and report to follow. 5. Cemetery fees to increase from 1 April, the first rise for three years. More details from Clerk.

PLANNING: 1. Application to reduce height of conifers at The Maunds, High Street. No objection. 2. Revised plans for bungalow, rear of 1 Chapmans Lane. Strong objections as it would be backland development and cause extra traffic. 3. Outline application for house at Clifton Mill. Objections as it would be backland development, highly visible across the valley and a dangerous access. PC called for detailed application. 4. Cllr Cosgrove reported on his attendance at a meeting to inspect the site at Upper Heyford.

PC FUNDS: £450,000 (Bradford & Bingley @ 6.7%); £120,00 (Treasury Deposit @ 6.125%); £12,969 (4.75% @ 14 days notice); £8,116 (overnight @ 3.375%). Total funds: £591,085.

CORRESPONDENCE: The Clerk read a large number of letters on subjects which included a successful visit to Holland by the Parish Church Choir, notification that CDC is consulting OCC on traffic management in Earls Lane, a request for volunteers from North Oxfordshire Carers to contact the Manager at Alexandra House, Church Passage, notification of a change of licence at the Kings Arms to Mrs Susan Oddy, a request for paving beside the cemetery water trough and details of recycled waste from the Deddington depot from July to October: 11.5 tonnes of glass, 6.7 tonnes of paper and 0.2 tonnes of steel. There was also a request for overnight accommodation for volunteers over two or three weekends while they tidy the trees and undergrowth at the Castle Grounds.

ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS: Cllr Swash expressed concerns over unauthorised parking in the entrance to The Grove. It has already caused problems for ambulances and as elderly people live there it is vital the PC do something to resolve the situation. Clerk to write to OCC and ask them to deal with it.

MEETING CLOSED at 9.45pm.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 17 January at 7.30pm in the Town Hall.

NOTE OF MEETING ON 17 JANUARY 1996, TOWN HALL

by Norman Stone

PRESENT Cllrs Todd (Chair), Mrs Brewer, Clarke, Clinch, Colley, Cosgrove, Drake, Flux, Miss Hill, Mrs Lee, Oddy, Mrs Stevens, Mrs Swash, C/Cllr Matthews, D/Cllr O'Sullivan. **Apologies**: Cllr Mrs Fisher.

BADMINTON By prior arrangement, Frank Shaw, Badminton Club Treasurer, addressed PC on the Club's difficulties, and answered questions. Costs - chiefly Windmill Centre charges, subscription to Oxfordshire Badminton Association, and expendables such as shuttlecocks - are overtaking revenue. Membership, currently 24, has been as low as 17, from a peak of 50. Mr Shaw focused on two objectives: financial stability and improved relationships. The first of these could be helped through parity of charges with Deddington's other sports clubs and with other badminton clubs in the area, and/or through a grant from Parish funds; the second, through discussion, explanation and understanding. Cllr Flux, Windmill Committee Chairman, pointed out that clubs using the Windmill Centre's outdoor pitches paid, in addition to the fee, their own maintenance costs, whereas those using the building did not. Nor was the Badminton Club always limited to the hours actually paid for. In the interests of better relations, a meeting will be held [SEE DIARY] with all user clubs to discuss problems and future requirements. [SEE ALSO ITEM ON **RECREATION AND GRANTS**, BELOW, AND **POSTBAG**]

RESPONSE TO RURAL WHITE PAPER PC reaffirmed support for a coordinated transport policy and preferred 'real' policemen to special/parish constables.

RECREATION AND GRANTS 1. PC was sympathetic towards the Badminton Club's application for a grant of £600 for equipment, expendables and fees, and agreed in principle to help the Junior Club. However, the request

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL continued

should be seen in the wider context of the Windmill Centre's return on capital investment. This will be an agenda item at the March PC meeting, when all the relevant facts will be available for discussion. 2. The Mums and Tots Group had applied for a grant of £500 towards improved facilities, toys and equipment stock and the toys "lending library". PC declined and encouraged the Group to raise money themselves 3. A general application from the Warriner School farm for funding, to replace former grants from Central and Local Government, was declined. 4. Gaveston Gardens PC accepted revisions to pathway through public open space and noted that Persimmon are not required to maintain the site after the first year. PC to discuss responsibilities with CDC. 5. Woodland Trust scheme deadline for joint-funding of a 9.5-acre wood in Deddington has been extended to 29 February [SEE ENCLOSED LEAFLET]. Parish Clerk to write conveying concern that the Trust had taken no account of queries and suggestions raised at the initial meeting, and repeated at the second, notably about costs and siting. Of the £9,000 required from local sources, £2,000 has been pledged so far.

ENVIRONMENT 1. New St/High St footpath works are unsatisfactory. Clerk to write to OCC. 2. Dexters Restaurant wish to place a sealed 100-year time capsule under the Town Hall. Capsule contents would be provided by local businesses, which would also donate £30 each to Katharine House Hospice. PC asked for more information. 3. PC agreed to provide a salt/grit bin in central Deddington: cost of £100 to include refilling in perpetuity. 4. To help OCC meet their responsibilities over the Clifton footpath, PC has formally offered a 5-year £20,000 loan.

PLANNING & PROPERTY Revised application for permission to develop Deddington Mill is open to the same objections as before; PC opposition is unchanged.

PRIVATISATION OF CAPITAL SCHEMES Clerk to obtain quotes now for the approved 1996/97 projects - street lighting improvements, Clifton play area levelling works, Town Hall repairs, Church Clock repairs/repainting. Estimated total cost £15,000.

STRUCTURE PLAN OCC sought "the flavour of local council's views" on proposals for "some limited development (say 3% to 5%) of the housing stock over the ten years from 2001 to 2011." In line with Deddington Parish Appraisal, PC holds firmly that there has already been more than enough development. PC will be represented at Planning Forum on 14 Feb to discuss future of the former airbase at Upper Heyford. Rumours that a Wimpey/Taylor Woodrow Consortium already owns the site are unconfirmed.

INVESTMENT OF PARISH FUNDS £450,000 at 6.7% variable until May 1997; £110,000 on Treasury deposit at 6% fixed; £8,111 at 2.625% on 14 days notice; £7,775 at 3% overnight. Total £575,886.

ACCOUNTS passed for payment £5,038.

WASTE PAPER SKIP will be placed on Parish Church territory on 4th weekend of each month. Church to benefit by £60 per 2-tonne load.

POLICE PC Bob Donahue, who has taken over from Dave Keats [WELCOME, BOB] will address PC on 21 February and hold a Neighbourhood Watch meeting on 6 March [Town Hall, 7.30pm].

PC MEETINGS, Town Hall, 7.30pm, 21 February, 13 March and 17 April. AGM 29 May.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 1 May.

WINDMILL CENTRE The Committee invites all clubs, organisations and individuals who use the facilities to an open meeting in the Windmill at 7 pm on Thursday, 8 February, for a general discussion on items of interest. **Jim Flux, Chairman**

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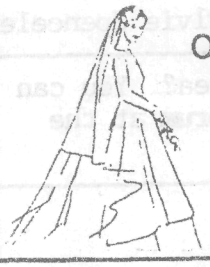
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NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

Christmas seems a long time ago now, but memories of our Nativity performance remain strong. A packed church seemed to enjoy our re-telling in words and music of the timeless story.

The holiday period saw the completion of our new classroom. The children are delighted with their bright new surroundings. The focus of building work has now moved to the construction of our new library. One more classroom is to be re-furbished and the main corridors are to be re-floored and redecorated.

Our sports teams have made a successful start to 1996. The footballers have beaten Chesterton (3-1) and the Neithrop Junior (2-0). The latter result was achieved in a cup-tie at one of the largest schools in Banbury and represents a splendid achievement. Our netball team beat Bishop Loveday 9-0.

As I write, four OFSTED inspectors are visiting us. They are spending a lot of time in classrooms analysing standards of work and every aspect of school life. They will produce a report in due course, which will help to guide the future development of the school.

PETER GORINGE (338430)

. . . and from the P. T. A.

Many thanks to all who gave to the Santa's Float collection (8-9 December '95). We raised a wonderful £392 over the two evenings.

Quiz Night, 16 March, Windmill Centre Due to the popularity of this event, usually held at the school, we have decided to open it to the whole community. We are inviting clubs, societies or groups of friends and neighbours to enter a team. There is no restriction on team sizes although we are asking each team to donate a raffle prize appropriate to its size. There will be a licenced bar from 7-11.30 pm and the Quiz will start at 7.30 pm prompt. Tickets at £3.50 per person include supper. So **put this date in your diaries now.** More details to follow. Tickets from school or call me to reserve yours.

MANDY HARPER (337489)

PLANTING FOR TOMORROW

Considering the short notice there was a lively attendance at the Public Meeting on 10 January to discuss the Woodland Trust's proposed woodland creation at Bloxham Bridge as part of (perhaps "first of") their 200 Woods-on-your-doorstep Millenium scheme.

Just to recap, of the estimated total cost of approx. £80,000, about a quarter is for the land, a quarter for the woodland creation and half for its maintenance in perpetuity. Half the cost will be met by the Millennium Commission, the remainder by grants (including £12,500 from the Cherwell DC) providing we (Deddington) can raise £9000. You should already have received a leaflet about this; a second is enclosed with this issue showing **the deadline has been extended to 29 February.**

The Woodland Trust, now in its 25th year, manages over 720 woods covering nearly 25,000 acres in the UK - two of the woods already with the backing of the Cherwell DC in Oxfordshire.

At the public meeting there were various suggestions that the Bloxham Bridge site was too far, too wet, too expensive. A suggested different site might be considered under a separate scheme. Others shared the views expressed by a correspondent on p8. Perhaps the sanest contribution was "Let's forget ourselves and think of the future!"

We are not talking of a pretty park but of restoring a whole habitat to the countryside: several thousand trees and all the plants, shrubs, birds, mammals, insects that go with it. A place in which we all, but especially Deddington's children, can participate, way, way beyond the year 2000.

For £9000... It can't be bad.

Sylvie Spenceley

RURAL CARE FORUM Do you know (care?) about Rural Strategy in your area? You can find out more about Cherwell Rural Strategy at the next **Rural Care Forum** at the Windmill Centre on Tuesday, 5 March, 2-4 pm.

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February Services (*Parish Church*).

Sun 4 Education Sunday 10.30am Family Communion. Special Preacher: Mr Peter Goringe, Head of Deddington C of E Primary School.

Wed 7 10am Holy Communion. Thu 8 3.30pm Holy Communion at St Anne's Home Clifton.

Sun 11 10.30am Sung Eucharist.

Wed 14 10am Holy Communion. 11.30am Holy Communion in Featherton House.

Sun 18 8am Holy Communion (BCP). 10.30am Sung Mattins (BCP).

Wed 21 ASH WEDNESDAY 8pm Holy Communion with imposition of ashes for those who wish. (NO 10am service on this day).

Sun 25 Sung Eucharist. Special Preacher: Prof. A.H. Halsey on "The Family".

Wed 28 10am Holy Communion and Healing Service.

March Sun 3 10.30am Family Communion. Special Preacher: Dr Harriet Harris (Cox Fellow at New College, Oxford) on "Life issues".

Services (*St John, Hempton*).

February: Sun 4 & 18 9am Eucharist. Sun 25 6pm Evensong. *March:* Sun 3 9am Eucharist.

Children's Church and Church Junior Club will meet in Church on 4 Feb. and 3 March for the Family Communion Services. On other Sundays they will meet in Deddington C of E Primary School at 10.15am. Any other children who would like to attend will be welcome.

Youth Fellowship (Over 12 years) Sun 11 Feb. 7.30pm Games Evening in Hempton Schoolroom. Sun 18 Feb. 7.30pm Pancake Party in 16, Broad Close, Barford St Michael. Sun 3 March 7.30pm Discussion about "Complementary Medicine: What can it do for You?" in 16, Broad Close, Barford St Michael. Any young people who would like to join the Y.F. please contact the Rev Dr Edmund Newell

New Electoral Roll. A new Roll has to be compiled. Being on the Church Electoral Roll entitles you to vote at the Church Annual Meeting for Deanery Synod representatives and members of the PCC. You must be a member of the C of E, over 16 years and either resident in the Parish or regularly attend services here. Application forms may be obtained in church or from Mrs Angela Sones (14 St Johns Way Tel 338027) to whom they should be returned.

THANKS

1. To all who supported the Parish Bazaar and Draw on 2 December. £1,154 was raised. 2. To Ross Webb and Ralph and Audrey Stewart, for £112 and £75 respectively towards the church heating system. 3. To those who attended Deddington Primary School's Nativity Presentation for half the collection (£81) again for the heating fund. 4. To Deddington Players for their donation (£140) following "Christmas is Coming".

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS:

BAPTISMS: 26 November in Deddington OSCAR HUGH FLUX PULLAN.
26 November in Hempton ANNA VICTORIA CALCUTT.
3 December in Deddington JACK CHRISTOPHER DUPONT.
31 December in Deddington LOLA CAITLIN RODGERS and HANNAH LAURA THOMPSON.
7 January in Deddington BARNABY PETER CHADWICK and EMILY LOUISE CHADWICK.

FUNERALS: 14 December in Deddington LEON ERIC MANNERS TAYLOR, aged 78 years.
20 December in Deddington ESTHER MARY CANT LOWTHER, aged 87 years.

KEN REEVES (vicar) 338329 ED NEWELL (curate) 338988

DEDDINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, New Street.

Secretary Joyce Minnear Tel: 338529 A warm welcome awaits you.

Junior Church 10.30am. All Stars 5-7yrs. Trail Blazers 8+ yrs. All welcome.

SUNDAY evening worship 6pm. Preachers as follows:

4 February - Mr D. Oliffe. 11 February - Mr Elbourne. 18 February - Mrs P. Ridd.
25 February - Rev M. Durber 3 March - Mr D. Oliffe. 10 March - Rev K. Reeves.

On 14 January we presented Alan and Ruth with a painting of Deddington by Mr K. Langstaff (to whom many thanks) in recognition of their dedication and hard work for the church over the past two years. They have now left to take up a full time ministry in the Shetland Isles. We will miss them greatly but wish them much happiness and fulfilment in their new work for the Lord. Fred Deeley is unwell. Please remember him in your prayers.

DON DAVIDSON 347072

DEDDINGTON WESLEYAN REFORM CHURCH, Chapel Square

February services: Sun 4 10.30am - Holy Communion - Pastor I. Walton.
Sun 11 & 18 10.30am - Pastor I. Walton.
Sun 25 10.30am - Preacher: Dr Mike Graveny.

CHURCH AND CHAPEL cont.

We offer you a very warm welcome and a superb cup of coffee afterwards.

Fellowship groups :Mondays - 12.30pm Prayer (Venue - please ring 338447).
Wednesdays - 7.30pm Prayer and Bible-based discussion. (Venue - as above)

PASTOR ISABEL WALTON 338024 (office) or 337157.

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Sunday Mass times:- 9am Mass at Adderbury.
10.15am Mass at Hethe. (Sung Latin on 1st Sunday of month)

FRANK STEINER 338264

INTER-CHURCH ACTIVITIES. Monday 5 February at 7.45pm - Ecumenical Prayer Group in the Wesleyan Reform Church.

Ecumenical House Group meetings in Lent. There will be four groups meeting once a week for five weeks, beginning the week of 25 February. There is the choice of two courses: (1) **Alpha Course** - This is concerned with questions such as "Why read the Bible?", "Why pray?", and "Is God listening". We have all have such questions and in discussion we hope to find some answers. (2) **Building Bridges** - Written by the Council of Churches, this course is concerned with applying our faith to "real life" issues, such as family life and the history of conflict. Anyone wishing to join one of these should contact any of the churches in Deddington for details.

TRIBUTES.

LEON ERIC MANNERS TAYLOR, aged 78 years. Leon was born in Doncaster, and after studying at Fettes College, Edinburgh, and Oriel College, Oxford, he served with the Royal Artillery during the Second World War. After the war, Leon joined the Civil Service, working for the Board of Trade, and had a distinguished career representing Britain's economic and commercial interests in Brussels, where he met his wife Betty, and in Malaysia and the Hague. He was later a Research Fellow at Sussex University. Having retired to Middle Barton, Leon and Betty moved to Deddington last September. We extend our sympathy to Betty and Peter

EDMUND NEWELL.

ESTHER MARY CANT LOWTHER, aged 87 years. Esther was born in Cumbria and it was there that she met and later married George. Some 57 years ago they moved to North Aston and from there to Deddington. They had two children, Margaret and William. After George's death in 1985 she continued to live in the Hempton Road until increasing frailty necessitated a move to Adderbury (and later Lake) House. KEN REEVES

DEDDINGTON DAY CARE A day care scheme for the elderly is being set up, with support from Social Services, and meetings have been taking place since before Christmas to deal with the initial organisation. **Deddington Day Care** will provide a day service for the frail elderly one day each week, offering interest, change and activities - and giving respite to a carer for that day. Initially open to residents of Deddington Parish, it will be held at the Windmill Centre for about five hours on a Thursday; a hot meal will be provided.
It is hoped the scheme will be up and running by the spring and we are now looking for volunteers willing to give a few hours once a week or month under the direction of a co-ordinator. Social Services hope to hold an open day at the Windmill Centre for those interested and this will be advertised locally. If you would like further information please contact one of the following: **Mrs J Fernbank (Social Services) 01295-2652421 Mr J Flux 338153 Mrs K Morris 338413 Mr R York 337121**

T H A N K S Many private individuals and local businesses make a contribution to our community but I'd like to offer a public accolade to two of them. Mr and Mrs Stewart of Clydesdale brought that extra festive touch to the carol singing in the Market Place on Christmas Eve by serving mulled wine and mince pies, and donated the proceeds to the Church Heating appeal. Ross Webb of the barber shop in Hudson Street offered a hot towel shave to all customers on Boxing Day in return for a donation to the same cause. Many thanks to both. That's real community spirit!

Jean Flux, Hon Treasurer, Deddington Church

"THE LAST STRAW" The National Farmers Union and the Samaritans have produced a very moving 12-minute video which explores the feelings of people living and working in rural communities, highlighting the isolation, despair and even thoughts of suicide which people can experience. It also makes the essential point that third parties can use the Samaritans in total confidentiality if there is someone they are concerned about. More from: Samaritans, 10 The Grove, Slough SL1 1QP, or Nick Read, NFU, Agriculture House, Stanton Harcourt Rd., Eynsham, Witney OX8 1TW.

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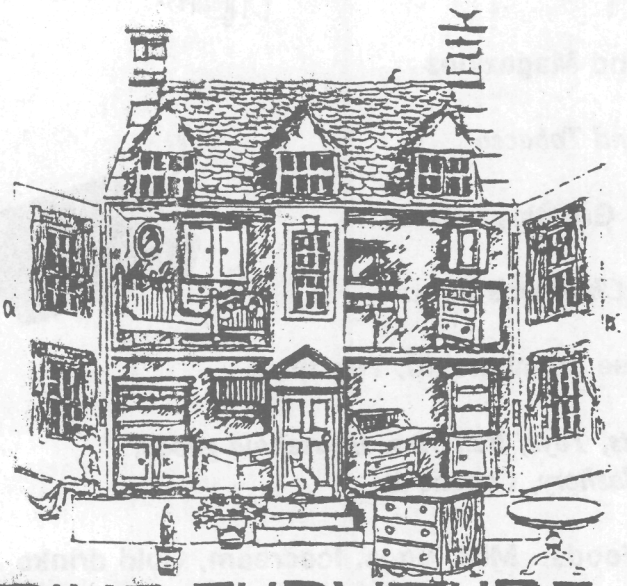

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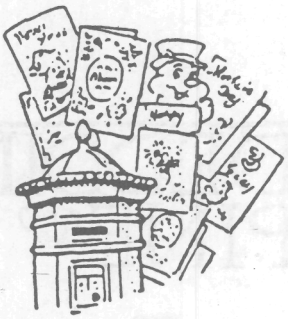

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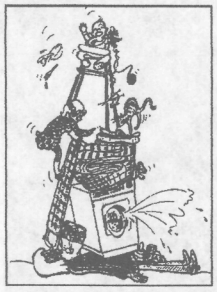

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THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

reviewed by Norman Stone

Beauty may have slept for 100 years, but the entire audience was wide awake for the whole of the final performance of this year's pantomime at Deddington's Windmill Centre. How we hissed the lusciously diabolical Bad Fairy and relished the matter-of-fact humour of the Good ditto! If the small children on stage captured our hearts, they were rivalled by the small children in the auditorium who captured the sweets that cascaded down and had a high old time answering the questions fired at them. The rumbustious comedy of the two Nurses got us all going - oh! yes it did! - while the awful jokes of a hefty suitor got us groaning. Princesses and other pretty girls sang prettily, courtiers were courtly and royals were regal. In fact, the entire cast, from villagers to principals, so obviously enjoyed themselves that their gusto carried us along with them. Sets, costumes and props helped enormously, and among many special effects the projected Hedge of Thorns was perhaps most memorable.

Well written and well produced, The Sleeping Beauty had enough local allusions to tickle those in the know and, happily, no references to TV soap operas. The extra, magic, ingredient was teamwork. On stage, backstage and front-of-house, about 50 people must have been involved. Each is due a share of the credit for a show that kept us in great good humour well beyond the last curtain call.

A suggestion that might help make next year's panto even more enjoyable - write the scene changes, and scene changers, into the script.

Of Pantomimes And Painted Faces and Social Mix and Other Things...

The village pantomime is over for another year. For most of you, at least those who came to see it, we hope it brought an hour or two of uncomplicated pleasure and entertainment. I wonder if you realised how complex an activity amateur dramatics really is. If you bought a programme, you might have noticed that there were 23 different names in the cast list and 28 in the production team. Even taking into account the fact that some appear in both lists I am sure you will concede that co-ordinating the efforts of such a big group is quite complicated. And that number does not include those who worked on the performance evenings 'front of house' and providing refreshments.

We are proud that we manage to involve such a wide cross-section of our community. Our youngest performer celebrated an eighth birthday during the run of the show, and our oldest is well beyond her eightieth! We had representatives of all three villages in the parish ... and four from further away, and our needs called upon an interesting variety of talents. We are especially grateful to Deddington's artistic community for filling the void left by Alan Gibb's departure and painting our scenery. You don't need to be stage struck to join in an amateur production; the contributions of those outside the cast list are every bit as important as those we all applaud on stage. What's more, if you join us, we can guarantee you will meet a greater variety of your fellow citizens than you will in most other village organisations. Keep an eye on the 'Clubs' page and come along next time we announce a production meeting.

JEAN FLUX

Half-term Entertainment for Children at the Windmill Centre:

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+++++

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For all the above, tickets, if still available, will be sold on the door

FROM THE EDITOR'S POSTBAG

A letter from **JILL CHEESEMAN, 37 THE DAEDINGS** is too long to publish in full and we apologise for editing it. The writer expresses surprise/frustration at several items in the December DN: (1) The Editor's comments regarding democracy in Deddington (p1) (2) The PC Notes reporting the Badminton Club believes they should have special rates (p2) (3) Windmill Committee Chairman A.F.F. Flux's statement on outdoor clubs' fees (p14) (4) The Editor's appeal for letters (p15).

Jill Cheeseman writes "I have recently copied two letters, addressed to the PC, to the DN. I know of a letter dated 20 October addressed to DN from another outdoor club. DN Has chosen to print none of them.
Mr Flux's statement exactly covers the point which the Badminton Club has tried to bring to the attention of the PC and DN readers. Groups such as the Cricket Club and Tennis Club have unlimited use of relevant outoor facilities, in addition to their respective pavilions, centre changing rooms and lounge, at an inclusive £450. Badminton Club has use of the main hall for a total of 5½ hours per week plus use for matches and we are being charged a minimum of £770 for the current season. We have never asked for special rates but simply parity with other clubs using facilities at the centre. Why is it not possible for Badminton Club to have a single negotiated charge at a similar level to other clubs? The only occasion when we 'over-run' are when matches are played. It is difficult to determine how long these will take. We use little or no heating and do not need use of the lounge. I do not believe these matters have been dealt with democratically by DN or PC."
(**Ed. Note:** The DN does not publish copies of letters to PC before the latter has an opportunity to consider them, as was explained at the time. See also PC Report)

FROM MIKE RAMSDALE, THE LEYES, DEDDINGTON
It looks as if, with the Woodland Trust's proposal at Bloxham Bridge, we have been given a marvellous opportunity to benefit from the Millenium Fund and establish a wood in a lovely valley which will be open to the public for generations to come. I hope the scheme gets the support it deserves from all the villagers. It also looks as if we shall be a "record first" for the Woodland Trust and Millenium Fund. Well done, all concerned. Thanks, Eds, for a first class village newspaper.

FROM SUSIE STRATFORD (NEE KERRIDGE), 85 PANTOLF PLACE, NEWBOLD, RUGBY, WARWICKS
My father, Mr.Ben Kerridge, a former resident of Deddington, passed away peacefully at Halesworth, Suffolk on 11 January, aged 88. He came to Deddington from Suffolk in 1937 with the Van Oss family to the "Hermitage" as their chauffeur/gardener, and his wife Elsie as cook. He joined the Fire Service and helped fight the Coventry blitz. They lived at Horsefair Cottage and after the Van Oss family left, worked for their successors at the "Hermitage", the Collinses. Ben then moved on to drive coaches for Stanley Hall and later for Bob Jarvis of Middle Barton. He had many friends in the Deddington area, and in the British Legion and fishing fraternity. In 1979 Ben and Elsie moved back to Suffolk. He leaves a wife, son and daughter, 5 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren and will be sadly missed.

FROM BILL IVINGS (TOWER CAPTAIN), PHILCOTE STREET
I would like to start by thanking the Editors of the Deddington News for the publicity given to the Handbell Ringers over the Christmas period. I am pleased to report great success at all our venues, Hempton, North Newington, Deddington, Wardington and Featherton House. We also had several generous donations which brought the total raised for the Bell Fund to £298.80. Thank you very much, all who so kindly invited us into your homes and to all who gave so generously a Very Happy New Year and a very warm welcome to all who would like to visit us in the Tower.

FROM MAGGIE & ALAN RAMPLEY, 25 ST MARY'S ROAD, ADDERBURY OX17 3EZ
Last October our son's girlfriend, on a round-Europe trip, was at the bus station in Prague, Czechoslovakia. An English lady approached Dale and asked whether the old Banbury sub-aqua club T-shirt she was wearing referred to Banbury, England. The enquirer who, it transpired, came from Deddington, may have been a little confused when Dale replied "yes" in a strong American accent! Unfortunately she was so taken aback, she forgot to ask who the lady was.
Were you that traveller - proving yet again what a small world it is after all? We'd be very glad to hear who it was.

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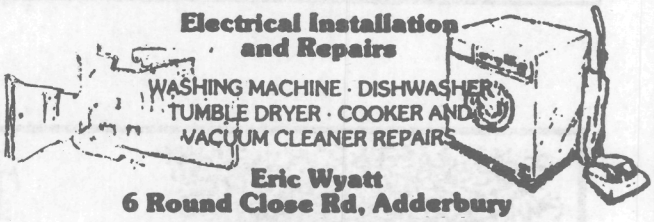

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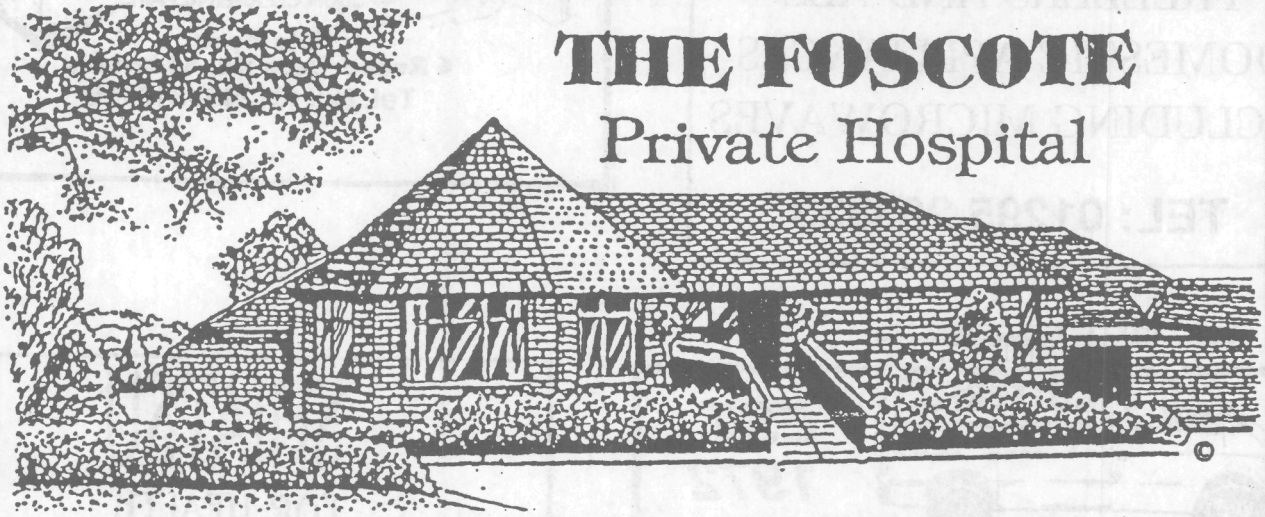

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Tel: 0295 252281 Fax: 0295 272877

DOWN ON THE FARM

The sheep are now settled in to their lambing quarters and look very contented. The new building has allowed us to house all the ewes at one go and this will save time when feeding and the fields will not get poached by the sheep or cut up by the tractors. The day to day management will be a lot easier and any problems can be seen and dealt with. With the mild early winter weather we did not have to start to feed hay until Christmas and now we shall have enough to 'see us through'. The ewes have been 'condition scored' to assess the amount of body fat each has. Those with a low score are penned together and given extra feed to improve the birth weight of their lambs and improve milk yield. All the ewes have been vaccinated against clostridial diseases and will pass some antibody protection on to the lambs through their milk.

The crops all look well for this time of the year with no major problems showing up as yet. With the mild weather of the last few weeks the grass leys that were planted last autumn have put on some growth so with a bit of luck we may get a 'nice bite' to put the ewes and lambs on to.

We have now sold all but some 200 tons of last harvest's crops and with rent day looming this will go in the next month or so. With world shortages of grain the 'farm gate' prices have been good this year. It does seem rather daft that only 3 years ago we were told that we were producing too much and compulsory set-aside was introduced. Now our masters in the EEC have had to introduce a tax on grain exported out of the EEC to conserve stocks and control the price. Perhaps it is time to remind the politicians and media commentators that we all need to eat and that a science called agriculture and practised by farmers is the only primary source of all the many and varied food products that can be bought in our shops and super markets. We all know some of granny's old sayings. Well, here's a new one: "He who has a full stomach has many problems; he who has an empty stomach has one!

GEORGE FENEMORE 338203

IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND : The Committee is delighted to report that the Luncheon in November resulted in another record donation to the Fund : £ 1,800.75 plus profit of £ 332.68 on the sale of Christmas cards, giving a grand total of £ 2,133.43. **Many** thanks to all our supporters. **MAUREEN, ROSEMARY, BUFFY and DIANA**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR continued

FROM THELMA DOVER, 19 GROVE COURT comes this offering entitled **'IN DESPERATION'**

They walk the lane together,
Man, woman and their best friend.
Best friend has been doing his duty
Ever faithful right to the end.
But now his masters have come home,
He's anxious to get to the field.
He watches them put on their wellies,
His tail wags with incredible speed.
They're off! Through the gate, up the path, what a rate!
No holding him now, he's desperate.
Into The Grove, sniffing his way,
To get to the field without delay.
The lead holds him back, he's not free yet,
Nature is calling, he's desperate.
He tries to hold on so frantically hard
But outside the flats leaves his calling card.
Notice on post threatens £500 fine,
But Best friend can't read this informative sign.
His masters ignore it, signs aren't to be read,
In any case over the card they will tread.
But not the poor soul who did not see this happen,
Out of the door straight into the crap 'n oh what a mess,
What a mess, to be sure, on the path by the door.
A scoop and a bag have not yet been bought,
So really his masters ought to have thought
To train Best friend to make his deposit
Where they, alone, will tread and slide in it.

Steeple Aston
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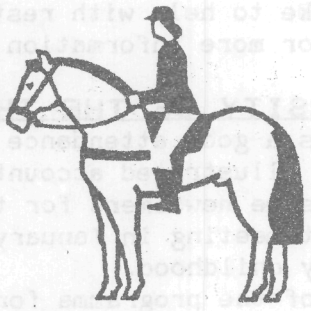

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CALLING ALL CLUBS

DEDDINGTON GUIDES

A small and trusty band entertained the residents at Wardington House Nursing Home at their Christmas party. This term we are continuing our badge and patrol work. We are particularly busy planning international activities with Thinking Day coming up in February. We are hoping to find out about life and Guiding in India and we are going to meet our friends from Byfield for other activities.
Batty ? We always thought we were and now we know all about real bats, following a visit from the Bat Protection Group. It was a great evening and much enjoyed.
Our big production in March will be "Robin Hood", so we have plenty to do.
Any girls of 10 or over who would like to come and join the friendship and fun will be most welcome.

MAGGIE RAMPLEY, GUIDER 01295/810069

DEDDINGTON WI

In January 1925 Deddington Women's Institute was formed. The president at the time was Mrs.Muriel Jones, wife of one of the local doctors. (They lived in Ilbury House). So, last week we celebrated our 70th Birthday. Members, ex-members, ex-presidents and some visitors were there, and we were pleased to have our VCO, Iris Sheehan, with us for the occasion. The president, Rene Mahony, invited everyone to have a glass of Sherry before the meeting started. The speaker was John Cheney who gave a delightful and amusing talk about "Old Banbury", which must have been a very pleasant little market town in the thirties, a good place to live, where everybody knew everybody else. One can hardly imagine it.
Then we had refreshments and Daisy Shrewsbury, the longest serving member, cut the cake. Vivian Bryant had produced a masterpiece of culinary perfection: a big square cake, exquisitely iced and painted with the WI emblem which is a Fritillary flower with gold leaves. I must add that it also tasted very good. Well, here's to the next 70 ! In the meantime, we have our mini-auction (for members only) on 13 February, 7.30pm at the Holly Tree Club.

MARIANNE ELSLEY 338251

CRAFT CLUB

We have at last moved into our proper Club Room. About a year ago, the school told us that they could no longer accommodate us. Since then we have met at Jo Mace's house, and we are all very grateful to her for her kind hospitality. We now use the "Guest Room" at the Holly Tree and for our first meeting last week, we organised the furniture and got comfortable. We hope that by now all readers of the DN have admired our Puddin-Pie Hanging which now belongs to the Holcombe Hotel and can be seen there. We have been asked to make a companion piece for it. The Craft Club would welcome a few more members and if there are any Needlepoint enthusiasts who would like to help with restoring and making kneelers for the church, please get in touch. For more information ring:

STELLA MARMION 338834

UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

There was a good attendance when the Rev.Ken Reeves provided a very comprehensive and well illustrated account of the visit to Jordan and Egypt. We were pleased to welcome some newcomers for this occasion. Dorothy Clarke set the ball rolling at the first meeting in January when she described some amusing and poignant events in her early childhood.
Details of the programme for February and March will be found in DN Diary and we extend a warm welcome to current and future members.

PAT BRITTAIN 338685

DEDDINGTON GARDENERS

If you have not already collected your "Goundry Order" from Castle End, please do so as soon as possible.
Advance Diary Dates.25 April. Spring trip to Wisley. by popular demand. We aim to leave Deddington at 9.30am and return at about 5pm. Lunch, entrance and coach fare will be ca. £17.
1 June. Projected trip to the "Open Day" at Pershore, the RHS college near Evesham.
Please let me know if you are interested in either of the above.

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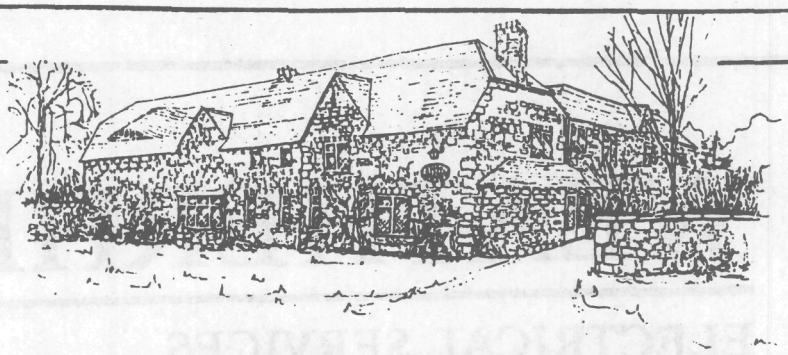

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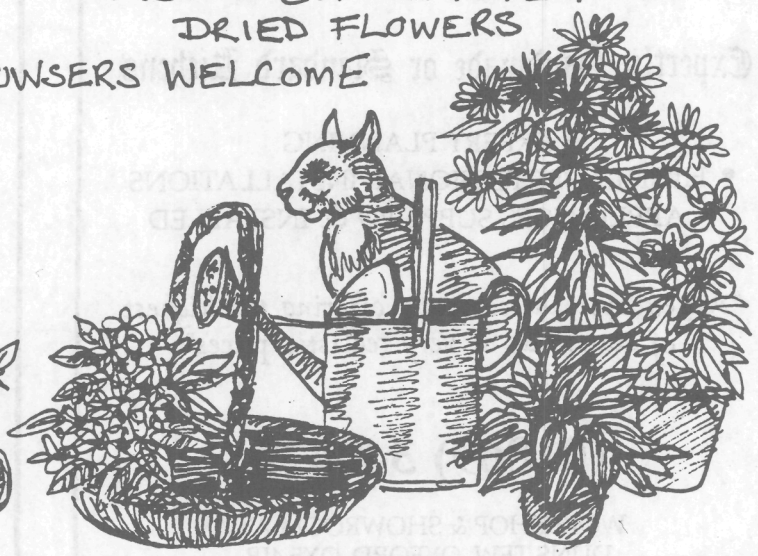

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DEDDINGTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

SATURDAY Side Results

Cropredy Res(h)	Won	3-2	M.Hewitt,C.Doggett,A.Shepherd
Fenny Compton(a)	Drew	2-2	M.Hewitt, J.Risato
Hook Norton Res(a)(Bill Gregory Cup)	Lost	2-3	M.Hewitt, S.Burden
Sinclair(a)(Banbury Charity Club)	Lost	2-7	M.Hewitt 2
Bishops Itchington Res (a)	Lost	1-4	M.Hewitt
Bodicote Res (h)	Drew	2-2	C.Milner,M.Hewitt

A mixed couple of months. A vital victory was achieved against Cropredy Res which has helped the team to remain top of Div 2. Michael Hewitt is still in top goal scoring form, and he has a total of 35 goals. In fact, he has scored in every single match this season! Quite a feat.

Sunday 1st Team Results

Chipping Warden(a)	Lost	1-5	D.Churchill;
Cock Horse(h)	Won	3-0	A.Shepherd,G.Shawyer,D.Cleeveley

The Team remain top of Div 2, although they can no longer boast an unbeaten league record. They bounced back in the 2nd game by comfortably defeating Cock Horse; new manager Andy Shepherd was one of the goal scorers. The leading goal scorer is Greg Shawyer with 20.

Sunday Reserve Team Results

Red Star Irregulars(h)	Won	2-0	Own Goal, S.Wilson
Buck and Bell (h)	Lost	0-6	
Horton Sports(a)	Lost	1-4	S.Legg

The Team have finally won their 1st game of the season, this came against Red Star Irregulars. Shaun Wilson was one of the goal scorers. This avenged a heavy defeat earlier in the season.

STEVE PLUMBE 338512

DEDDINGTON BEECHES BOWLS CLUB

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Deddington Beeches Bowls Club has some vacancies for new members for the 1996 season. This year the subscription is only £25. The club's home is the splendid competition standard 6 rink Green at the Windmill. You don't have to be an experienced bowler to sample the delights of the game. The club offers free introductory tuition without obligation to potential new bowlers and can provide bowls of various sizes for you to try, as well as the necessary footwear - also in various sizes! Every encouragement is given to develop your skills. Please contact me for more details.

JOHN CLIFFORD,SECRETARY 340564

BACK-A-KNEELER PROJECT 96 - DEDDINGTON CHURCH The parish church needs some kneelers repaired, and some new ones made. The present very attractive ones are 30+ years old and in need of a little TLC to give them strength for...another 30 years; but we also need some more to fill the gaps.

If you would like to be involved in this project, either to repair a kneeler by sewing a new back on it, or to make a new one, or to back a kneeler financially, the vicar would be very grateful.

Initially volunteers will be invited to a meeting to discuss the project and find out what is involved.

If you are interested please contact Rev. Ken Reeves (338329) or Stella Marmion (338834)

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THE WAY WE WERE Deddington 150 years ago by Buffy Heywood

Extracts from the diaries of the Rev. Cotton Risley for November 1845:

8th NOVEMBER - Called on Mr. Spurrell (the Curate) and had a long conversation with him about all that occurred between Franklin and himself during the last fortnight at the Sunday School - all the circumstances were most painful to me - and he was very severe, unfairly so I think, against poor Franklin - I told him my mind.

12th NOVEMBER - I heard from Mr. Bury respecting Holford and his capabilities - a very satisfactory account.

13th NOVEMBER - Answered Mr. Spurrell's last letter to me - I gave him notice to quit the curacy on the 1st July 1846, notice to commence from January 1st 1846.

14th NOVEMBER - Heard from Mr. Spurrell in answer to my letter - a very uncourteous and unsatisfactory reply. Called at Jenny Knibb's and ordered some pudding pies for the Fair.

19th NOVEMBER - Attended a Vestry meeting about filling up the Town pool. It was carried by a large majority of votes that the pool should be filled up - much to the chagrin and disappointment of certain parties present.

20th NOVEMBER - Susan so unwell poor dear that we sent for Mr. Turner who ordered her a large blister on her chest as she was evidently suffering severely from bronchitis.

NEWS FROM HEMPTON

As usual the Church was packed for the Carol Service. Many thanks to Deddington Church Choir for leading the singing. Thanks are also due to the faithful few who ensured that the Church was cleaned and decorated for the occasion and who so generously provided the refreshments.

The Christmas Bazaar attracted many friends in spite of poor weather, and raised the magnificent total of £ 872.00.

Consultations continue regarding the best way to repair the Church building and cure the problem of damp. We hope a start will be made soon, not forgetting re-decoration of the schoolroom. Meanwhile there is a new list up for cleaners and providers of flowers in 1996, and any volunteers are assured of a hearty welcome. A 'Plants and Pennies' event is planned for 11 May.

We are appreciative of the new bus shelter, which looks very smart and should shield us more effectively from the elements. Thanks to all concerned. While the Chipping Norton Road has been closed for tree-felling, we have enjoyed the reduction in heavy traffic. It has seemed comparatively safe walking through the "pinch point". Alas, this will not continue. Larger lorries and wider tractors plus macho motorists threaten a major accident one day. **NAN HARRIS 338039**

DEDDINGTON FIRE SERVICE

Fire Calls 1995 : During the last month of 1995 we received 16 calls, which were: 4 chimney fires; 1 road traffic accident; 2 malicious false alarms; 6 false alarms with good intent; 1 false alarm electrical defect and 2 calls to stand by at other stations. This brings the total for 1995 to 221, which is less than in 1994. This may seems strange in a year when every other station was well up on the number of calls, but it is due to two things: firstly, because of County Council cuts the pre-determined attendance to various premises was reduced so we no longer attend automatic alarms at places such as the Horton General Hospital and Bloxham School and secondly, due to insufficient crew the station has had to be taken off the run for considerable periods of time.

Recruiting : The Recruiting Leaflets we delivered on 17 December to nearly every house in the village have to date yielded two tentative enquiries which we will follow up. Hopefully these will improve the crewing situation.

Resignation : Unfortunately, owing to a change in employment and other reasons Jonathan Haines has resigned after 18 years' service. We are very sorry to lose him, will miss his dry wit and sense of humour and wish him well for the future.

Fire Calls 1996: What fire calls? As I write this on Saturday 20 January we have received only 5 calls. These were: 1 cooker fire; 1 chimney fire; 1 horse stuck in the river at Adderbury; 1 false alarm with good intent and 1 call to stand by at Bicester Fire Station.

Memorabilia : We are always on the lookout for fire service memorabilia, particularly concerning the history of Deddington Fire Service. We already have some old photographs and press cuttings. We would welcome any other items, which we could photocopy and return to the owner. **ALBERT HUMPHRIES 338943**

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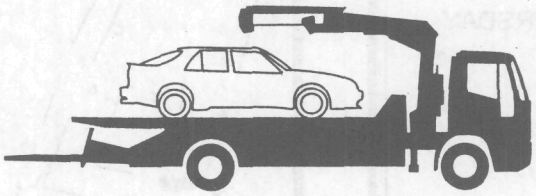

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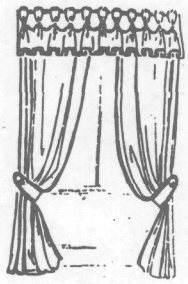

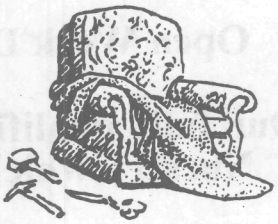

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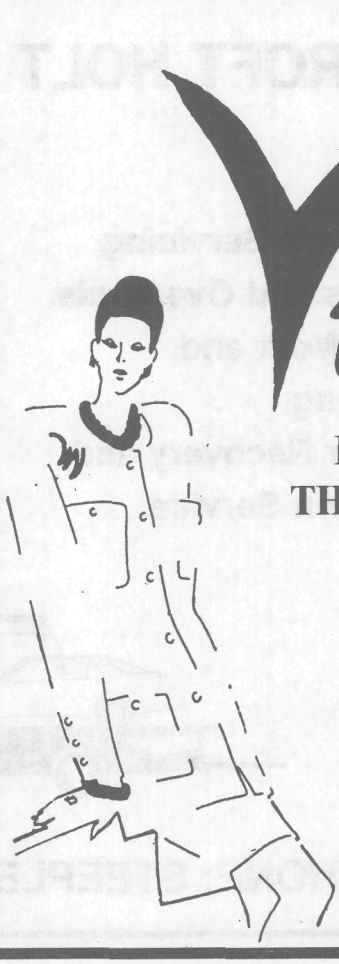

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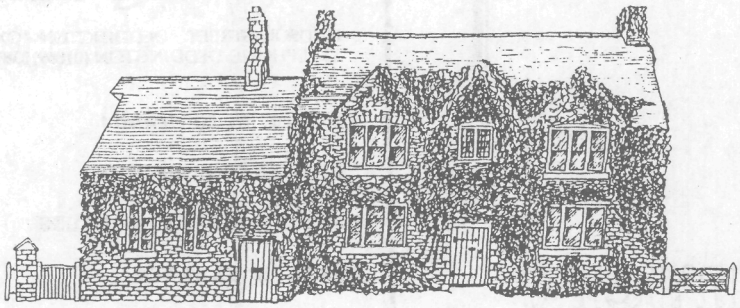

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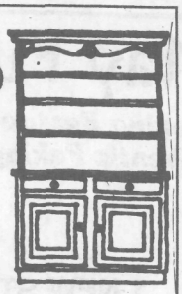

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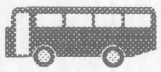

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